COUNTY PROFILE

Blue Earth Co.

Blue Earth Co. is a part of Economic Development Region 9, which is located in the Southwest Planning Region.

POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

Blue Earth Co.'s population increased this decade, ranking as the 16th fastest growing of the 87 counties in the state from 2010 to 2020. It is now the 13th largest in the state. Blue Earth Co.'s population has a younger median age than the state and a smaller percentage of people aged 65 years and older. The population is aging, especially as the Baby Boom generation moves through the population pyramid (see Figure 1).

Current population:	69,112 people
Population change,	
2010-2020	8.0% increase

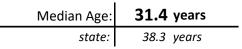
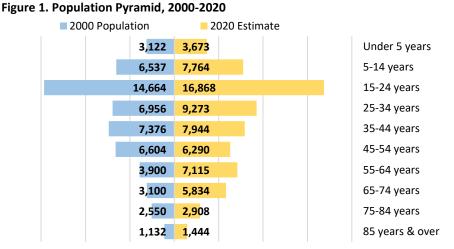


Table 1. Population by Age Group, 2020 Number **Percent** Under 5 years 3,673 5.3% 7,764 11.2% 5-14 years 16,868 24.4% 15-24 years 25-34 years 9.273 13.4% 35-44 years 7,944 11.5% 45-54 years 6,290 9.1% 10.3% 55-64 years 7,115 65-74 years 5,834 8.4% 75-84 years 2,908 4.2% 85 years & over 1,444 2.1% **Total Population** 69,112 100.0% Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates



Blue Earth Co. enjoyed a natural increase - more births than deaths from 2010 to 2019, but also experienced net in-migration - meaning more people moved in than moved out. In addition to domestic in-migration, Blue Earth Co. welcomed net international in-migration - gaining new Minnesotans from foreign countries (see Table 2).

Table 2. Components of Population Change, 2010-2019							
	Total	April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2019					
	Population	Natural	ural Vital Events Net Migration				
	Change	Increase	Births	Deaths	Total	International	Domestic
Blue Earth Co.	3,640	2,387	6,809	4,422	1,274	1,177	97
State of Minnesota	335,705	250,488	637,356	386,868	88,161	114,414	-26,253

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

Figure 2. Place of Birth for the Foreign Born Population,

2019

Compared to the state, Blue Earth Co. has a smaller percentage of foreign-born residents. From 2010 to 2019, Blue Earth Co. saw an increase in the number of foreign-born residents, which was faster than the statewide increase.

Table 3. Place of Birth for the Foreign Born	Blue Earth Co.		Change 2	010-2019	Minnesota		
Population, 2019	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent	Change	
Foreign-born Population	3,448	5.2%	944	37.7%	8.5%	28.9%	
Europe	363	10.5%	33	10.0%	9.9%	4.5%	
Asia	1,418	41.1%	343	31.9%	37.5%	30.3%	
Africa	899	26.1%	220	32.4%	25.5%	72.0%	
Oceania	7	0.2%	-5	-41.7%	0.5%	37.2%	
Americas:	761	22.1%	353	86.5%	26.6%	10.0%	
Latin America	720	20.9%	384	114.3%	24.1%	12.2%	
Northern America	41	1.2%	-31	-43.1%	2.5%	-7.7%	

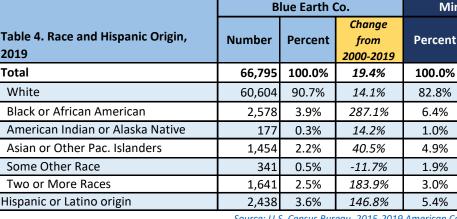
■ Northern America

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 American Community Survey

Blue Earth Co.'s population was becoming more racially diverse over time. Since 2000, the county's white population increased and the number of people of other races increased (see Table 4).

Figure 3. Population by Race, 2019

- White
- Black or African American
- American Indian
- Asian
- Some Other Race
- Two or More Races



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 American Community Survey

Minnesota

Change

from

2000-2019

13.1%

4.7%

107.6%

5.5%

87.8%

58.1%

99.9%

108.9%

POPULATION PROJECTIONS

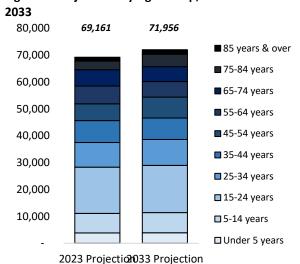
According to the Minnesota State Demographic Center, Blue Earth Co.'s population is expected to grow from 2023 to 2033, with a rate of change that is slower than the projected statewide growth rate (5.6%). In addition to the overall growth, the number of people aged 65 years and older is expected to increase over the next decade (see Figure 4 and Table 5).

Table 5. Population Projections by Age Group, 2023-2033

90.7%

Table 5. Population Projections by Age Group, 2023-2033							
	2023	2033	Numeric	Percent			
Blue Earth Co.	Projection	Projection	Change	Change			
Under 5 years	3,829	3,904	<i>75</i>	2.0%			
5-14 years	7,271	7,488	217	3.0%			
15-24 years	17,232	17,546	314	1.8%			
25-34 years	9,160	9,678	518	5.7%			
35-44 years	8,139	7,972	-167	-2.1%			
45-54 years	6,256	7,761	1,505	24.1%			
55-64 years	6,600	5,796	-804	-12.2%			
65-74 years	6,046	5,539	-507	-8.4%			
75-84 years	3,211	4,616	1,405	43.8%			
85 years & over	1,417	1,656	239	16.9%			
Total Population	69,161	71,956	2,795	4.0%			

Figure 4. Projections by Age Group, 2023-



Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Blue Earth Co. has a higher percentage of adults (18 years & over) with at least a high school diploma than the state (92.4%), and a higher percentage of people with at least some college experience. Blue Earth Co. also has a lower percentage of people with an Associate's degree and a lower percentage of people with a Bachelor's degree or higher.

Percentage of the adult population (18 years & over) with at least a high school diploma:

95.2%

19% 5% 5%

Figure 5. Educational Attainment, 2019

☐ Less than high school

☐ High school graduate (incl. equiv.)

■ Some college, no degree

■ Associate's degree

■ Bachelor's degree

■ Advanced degree

College-educated: 71.4%state: 67.1%

Associate's Degree: 10.5%
Bachelor's Degree: 18.8%
Advanced Degree: 8.8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 American Community Survey

LABOR FORCE TRENDS

At 5%, Blue Earth Co. had a lower unemployment rate than the state in 2020. Due to the pandemic recession Blue Earth Co.'s unemployment rate increased compared to 2.8% in 2019, but was lower than the 6.4% rate posted in 2010. The number of unemployed workers actively seeking work in Blue Earth Co. increased over the past year, and is down compared to 2010.

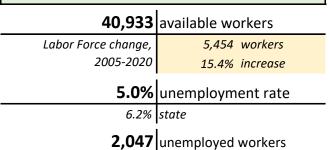


Figure 6. Annual Labor Force Estimates Minnesota Blue Earth Co. **40,933** 3,150,000 42,000 41,000 3,100,000 40,000 Labor Force 3,050,000 39,000 3,000,000 38,000 37,000 2,950,000 36,000 **35,47** 2,900,000 35,000 2,850,000 34.000 2,800,000 33,000 32,000 2,750,000 2012

Source: DEED Local Area Unemployment Statistics

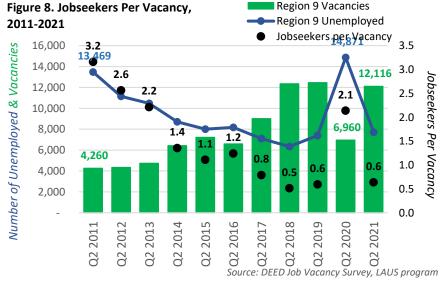
Labor force growth has slowed in recent years. After experiencing a net gain of 406.7 workers each year from 1990 to 2000, Blue Earth Co. averaged an annual gain of 418.4 new workers from 2000 to 2010, and most recently a gain of 281.9 new workers since 2010 (see Figure 7). Moving forward, Blue Earth Co. is expected to add workers from 2023 to 2033 (see Table 6).

Figure 7. Annual Change in Labor Force, 1990-2020 1,200 Average of 407 Average of 418 Average of 282 w workers per year new workers per vear new workers per year Year-Over-Year Change in Available Workers 1,000 800 600 400 200 0 -200 -400 2012-20128 2011-20128 2010-2010 Louis 2009-2010 Commence 2008-20098 2018-201% 2013-201 1990-199: 2000-2001 2014-201 1991-1992 1992-1993 1993-199 2003-2004 2004-2005 2015-201 2016-201 2019-2020 1994-1995 1995-1996 1996-199 1997-1998 1998-1999 1999-2000 2002-2003 2005-2006 2006-2007 2007-2008

Table 6. Labor Force	Labor Force Projection			
Projections, 2023-2033	2023 2033			
16 to 24 years	11,917	12,236		
25 to 54 years	21,196	22,834		
55 to 64 years	5,107	4,485		
65 years & over	1,988	1,935		
Total Labor Force	40,208	41,491		

Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center

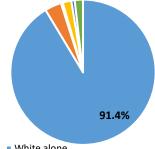
The labor market had grown extremely tight in recent years, with less than 1 jobseeker per vacancy until the pandemic recession intervened in early 2020 and the number of unemployed workers spiked. However, by the second quarter of 2021, job vacancies in Southwest reached new highs, quickly bringing back challenges in finding new workers (see Figure 8).



LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS

Blue Earth Co. had a higher labor force participation rate than the state. The labor force in Blue Earth Co. is less racially diverse than the state (where 84.8% of workers are white alone), but is becoming more diverse over time.

Table 7. Employment Characteristics, 2019									
	Blu	e Earth Co.		Minne	esota	Blue Ear	rth Co.		
	In Labor Force (available	Force	Unemp.	Labor Force	Unemp.				
	workers)	Partic.	Rate	Partic. Rate	Rate	Male	Female		
Total Labor Force	39,624	Rate 72.0%	3.8%	69.7%	3.6%	20,416	19,200		
16 to 19 years	3,365	64.1%	12.0%	53.2%	11.0%	1,562	1,805		
20 to 24 years	8,585	79.0%	2.7%	84.6%	6.0%	4,051	4,535		
25 to 44 years	14,582	90.8%	3.0%	88.8%	3.2%	8,020	6,559		
45 to 54 years	5,737	87.7%	3.7%	87.6%	2.7%	2,892	2,846		
55 to 64 years	5,716	77.4%	3.7%	73.0%	2.8%	2,893	2,825		
65 to 74 years	1,403	28.6%	1.1%	27.9%	2.2%	856	548		
75 years & over	225	5.6%	6.7%	6.6%	2.4%	142	82		
Employment Characteristics by Race & His	panic Origin					Figure 9. La	bor Force by		
White alone	36,205	71.9%	3.4%	69.3%	3.0%	Race, 2019	•		
Black or African American	1,464	71.6%	12.8%	71.3%	8.8%	-			
American Indian & Alaska Native	162	93.1%	22.8%	58.9%	12.6%				
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	763	58.2%	3.9%	71.2%	4.3%		\		
Some Other Race	298	93.7%	4.7%	77.7%	6.1%				
Two or More Races	726	87.4%	4.8%	73.6%	7.4%				
Hispanic or Latino	1,520	85.9%	10.9%	76.5%	6.1%				
Employment Characteristics by Disability									
With Any Disability	2,052	60.7%	6.7%	53.0%	8.6%		91.4		
Employment Characteristics by Education	al Attainment								
Population, 25 to 64 years	26,028	86.8%	3.3%	84.5%	3.0%	White ale			
Less than H.S. Diploma	957	70.6%	4.9%	66.3%	4.2%		African America		
H.S. Diploma or Equivalent	5,827	82.7%	2.6%	78.5%	2.6%		n Indian & Alask		
Some College or Assoc. Degree	9,425	88.7%	2.9%	85.3%	3.0%		Other Pac. Islan		
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	9,829	89.7%	1.5%	90.0%	1.7%	Some Ot	her Race		

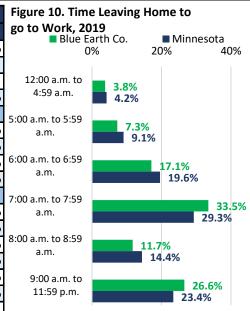


- can
- ka Native
- nders
- Two or More Races

A larger percentage of workers in Blue Earth Co. worked in the same county in which they live compared to the state. Blue Earth Co. also had a shorter average commute time than the state.

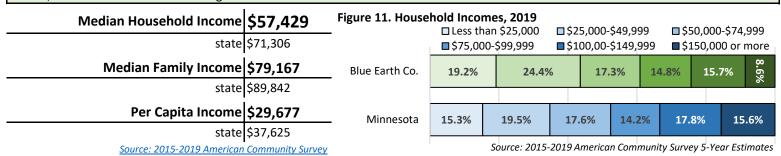
Source: 2015-2019 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

	Blue Eart	h Co.	Minn	esota
Table 8. Commuting Characteristics, 2019	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Worked in state of residence	36,623	99.6%	2,837,697	97.6%
Worked in county of residence	28,056	76.3%	1,846,247	63.5%
Worked out of county of residence	8,567	23.3%	991,449	34.1%
Worked outside state of residence	147	0.4%	69,779	2.4%
MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK				
Car, truck, or van	32,394	88.1%	2,506,244	86.2%
Public transportation (excl. taxicab)	699	1.9%	101,762	3.5%
Other method (walk, bike, taxi, etc.)	1,618	4.4%	125,021	4.3%
Worked at home	2,022	5.5%	171,541	5.9%
TRAVEL TIME TO WORK				
Less than 10 minutes	8,825	24.0%	456,474	15.7%
10 to 19 minutes	17,061	46.4%	872,243	30.0%
20 to 29 minutes	5,037	13.7%	645,460	22.2%
30 to 44 minutes	3,420	9.3%	575,680	19.8%
45 to 59 minutes	882	2.4%	194,801	6.7%
60 or more minutes	1,508	4.1%	162,819	5.6%
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	18.1	minutes	23.7	minutes



INCOMES, COST OF LIVING, & HOUSING

Blue Earth Co. had a lower median household income than the state, and a higher percentage of households with incomes below \$50,000. Overall, Blue Earth Co. had the 49th highest median household income of the 87 counties in the state.



Blue Earth Co. also had a lower cost of living than the state, with a required hourly wage of \$14.15 for a single person living alone to meet a basic needs cost of living, and an hourly wage requirement of \$15.64 for a typical family with 2 adults and 1 child (see Table 9).

Table 9. Basic Needs Cost of Living Estimates, 2020 **Monthly Costs** Single Yearly **Hourly Wage** Single Adult, 0 children Health Trans-**Cost of Living** Required **Child Care** Food Housing Other **Taxes** Care portation Blue Earth Co. \$29,433 \$14.15 \$0 \$347 \$163 \$701 \$631 \$287 \$324 State of Minnesota \$32,964 \$15.85 \$0 \$355 \$153 \$832 \$704 \$325 \$378 Typical Family: 2 Adults (1 **Monthly Costs** Family Yearly **Hourly Wage** working full-time, 1 part-Health Trans-Housing **Child Care Cost of Living** Required Food Other **Taxes** time), 1 child Care portation Blue Earth Co. \$48,798 \$15.64 \$255 \$793 \$519 \$932 \$727 \$472 \$368 State of Minnesota \$58,800 \$18.85 \$546 \$810 \$549 \$819 \$515 \$592 \$1,069

Blue Earth Co. had a lower median house value than the state, having the 26th highest value of the 87 counties in 2019. Blue Earth Co.'s housing stock was newer than the state's, with a higher percentage of units built since 2000 (see Figure 12).

Table 10. Estimated Value of Owner-	Blue Earth Co.		Minnesota
occupied Housing Units, 2019	Total	Percent	Percent
Total	16,179	100.0%	100.0%
Less than \$50,000	1,174	7.3%	4.6%
\$50,000 to \$99,999	1,126	7.0%	7.8%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	2,840	17.6%	12.3%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	4,068	25.1%	17.9%
\$200,000 to \$299,999	4,236	26.2%	28.1%
\$300,000 to \$499,999	2,177	13.5%	21.5%
\$500,000 or more	558	3.4%	7.9%
Median (dollars)	\$184,8	800	\$223,900

Figure 12. Year Structure Built, 2019

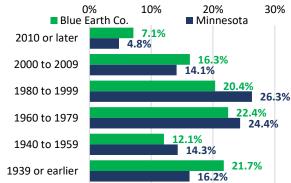


Figure 13. Housing Costs as a

Percentage of Income, 2019

14.6%

39.7%

17.5%

Source: 2015-2019 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

Median monthly owner costs, owner-occupied units \$1,379 with a mortgage state \$1,580

Percentage of households with a mortgage spending 30% or more of their income on housing costs

Median monthly rent costs \$883

Percentage of renters spending 30% or more of their household income on rent

state 4<u>5.1</u>%

25.0% to 29.9%

20% to 24.9%

52.0%

■ 35% or more

Less than 20%

6.3%

9.7%

30.0% to 34.9%

mortgage

24.5%

13.6%

rent

11.0%9.5%

Source: 2015-2019 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

OCCUPATIONS

At \$19.76 in 2021, wages were lower in Region 9 than the state. Overall, Region 9 had the 8th highest median hourly wage level of the 13 economic development regions in the state. Wages were highest for management occupations (\$43.81) and lowest for food preparation and serving related jobs (\$12.37) (see Table 11).

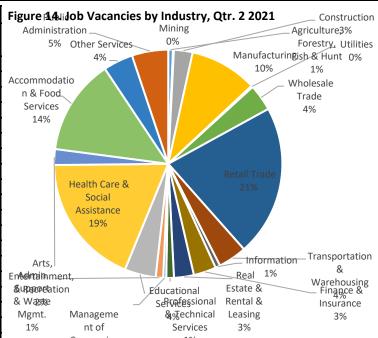
Table 11. Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics, 2021							
		Regio	n 9		Stat	te of Minnes	ota
Occupational Group	Median Hourly Wage	Estimated Regional Jobs	Share of Total Jobs	Regional Location Quotient	Median Hourly Wage	State-wide Jobs	Share of Total Jobs
Total, All Occupations	\$19.76	99,840	100.0%	1.0	\$23.00	2,708,760	100.0%
Management	\$43.81	4,550	4.6%	0.8	\$54.22	164,530	6.1%
Business & Financial Operations	\$30.03	3,250	3.3%	0.5	\$35.24	179,670	6.6%
Computer & Mathematical	\$32.25	1,110	1.1%	0.3	\$44.89	98,240	3.6%
Architecture & Engineering	\$32.85	1,770	1.8%	0.9	\$38.90	54,880	2.0%
Life, Physical & Social Science	\$30.99	970	1.0%	1.0	\$35.48	26,120	1.0%
Community & Social Service	\$23.74	2,650	2.7%	1.3	\$24.21	55,630	2.1%
Legal	\$28.79	410	0.4%	0.6	\$41.02	19,760	0.7%
Education, Training & Library	\$23.19	8,770	8.8%	1.5	\$24.64	159,060	5.9%
Arts, Design, Entertainment & Media	\$19.33	1,120	1.1%	0.8	\$25.72	36,260	1.3%
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	\$33.93	5,520	5.5%	0.8	\$36.90	188,210	6.9%
Healthcare Support	\$15.59	6,000	6.0%	1.0	\$15.52	157,140	5.8%
Protective Service	\$21.49	1,420	1.4%	0.9	\$24.18	42,520	1.6%
Food Preparation & Serving Related	\$12.37	8,890	8.9%	1.2	\$13.34	195,120	7.2%
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	\$15.47	2,800	2.8%	1.0	\$16.14	74,550	2.8%
Personal Care & Service	\$13.62	2,060	2.1%	1.1	\$14.57	51,660	1.9%
Sales & Related	\$15.28	8,640	8.7%	0.9	\$16.83	250,430	9.2%
Office & Administrative Support	\$19.31	12,340	12.4%	1.0	\$20.93	338,050	12.5%
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	\$17.69	420	0.4%	2.7	\$18.14	4,230	0.2%
Construction & Extraction	\$26.49	3,620	3.6%	1.0	\$29.84	102,390	3.8%
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	\$23.98	4,250	4.3%	1.2	\$25.45	98,840	3.6%
Production	\$19.31	10,510	10.5%	1.4	\$19.82	202,240	7.5%
Transportation & Material Moving	\$18.43	8,780	8.8%	1.1	\$18.83	209,210	7.7%

Source: DEED Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics, Qtr. 1 2021

JOB VACANCY SURVEY

Blue Earth Co. is a part of the Southwest planning region. There were 12116 job vacancies posted by employers in the 2nd Quarter of 2021, indicating extensive opportunity in the region, with openings across several occupations and industries (see Figure 14).

Table 12. Southwest Job Vacancy Survey Results, Qtr. 2 2021					
	Number of				
Occupational Group	Vacancies	Wage Offer			
Total, All Occupations	12,116	\$15.03			
Management	238				
Business & Financial Operations	406	•			
Computer & Mathematical	48	7-0:-0			
Architecture & Engineering	86				
Life, Physical & Social Sciences	14	7			
Community & Social Service	111				
Education, Training & Library	257				
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	1,050				
Healthcare Support	1,618				
Protective Service	141				
Food Preparation & Serving Related	2,080				
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	328				
Personal Care & Service	246				
Sales & Related	1,549	\$13.27			
Office & Administrative Support	637	7			
Construction & Extraction	142	\$21.47			
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	531	7			
Production	843				
Transportation & Material Moving	1,316	\$17.09			



Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey, Qtr. 2 2021

OCCUPATIONS IN DEMAND

Table 13. Southwest Occupations in Demand, 2020						
Less than High School	High School or Equivalent	Some College or Assoc. Deg.	Bachelor's Degree or Higher			
Home Health and Personal Care Aides	Nursing Assistants	Registered Nurses	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education			
\$28,035	\$30,933	\$68,952	\$52,103			
Retail Salespersons	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational	Police and Sheriff?s Patrol	Physicians, All Other; and			
\$27,105	Nurses \$46,278	Officers \$58,679	Ophthalmologists, Except Pediatric NA			
First-Line Supervisors of	Automotive Service Technicians and	Electrical and Electronic				
Retail Sales Workers	Mechanics	Engineering Technologists and	Financial Managers			
\$41,484	\$35,447	\$60,317	\$99,935			
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	Medical Dosimetrists, Medical Records	Civil Engineering Technologists	Civil Engineers			
Truck Drivers	Specialists, and Health Technologists and	and Technicians	Civil Engineers			
\$45,441	\$41,022	\$62,577	\$86,311			
Janitors and Cleaners,	Heating, Air Conditioning, and	Diagnostic Medical	General and Operations Managers			
Except Maids and	Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers	Sonographers	General and Operations Managers			
\$28,667	\$47,376	\$78,847	\$74,397			
Teaching Assistants, Except	Medical Assistants	Clinical Laboratory Technologists	Physician Assistants			
Postsecondary		and Technicians	•			
\$28,887	\$39,512	\$56,251	\$117,551			
Laborers and Freight, Stock,	Industrial Machinery Mechanics	Radiologic Technologists and	Secondary School Teachers, Except			
and Material Movers, Hand	·	Technicians	Special and Career/Technical			
\$33,694	\$49,897	\$62,640	\$55,202			
Secretaries and	Emergency Medical Technicians and	Industrial Engineering	Middle School Teachers, Except			
Administrative Assistants,	Paramedics	Technologists and Technicians	Special and Career/Technical			
\$39,529	\$34,822	\$50,238	\$54,152			
Stockers and Order Fillers	Electricians	Mechanical Engineering	Electrical Engineers			
Stockers and Order Tillers		Technologists and Technicians	_			
\$28,316	\$58,008	\$45,140	\$87,297			
Office Clerks, General	Computer Numerically Controlled Tool Programmers	Physical Therapist Assistants	Construction Managers			
\$35,222	\$62,213	\$51,326	\$87,171			

Source: DEED Occupations in Demand

Blue Earth Co. is a part of the Southwest planning region, which is projected to see a 0.9% increase in employment levels over the next decade. In addition to new jobs created, there will be a much larger number of exit openings (see Figure 15).

Table 14. Regional Industry Employment Projections, 2018-2028					
Southwest Planning Region	Estimated Employment 2018	Projected Employ- ment 2028	Percent Change 2018-2028		
Total, All Industries	206,422	209,790	1.6%		
Natural Resources & Mining	5,776	6,171	6.8%		
Utilities	744	697	-6.3%		
Construction	7,858	8,687	10.5%		
Manufacturing	31,188	31,071	-0.4%		
Wholesale Trade	8,530	7,993	-6.3%		
Retail Trade	19,926	19,533	-2.0%		
Transportation & Warehousing	7,465	7,898	5.8%		
Information	2,549	2,364	-7.3%		
Finance & Insurance, Real Estate	7,693	7,584	-1.4%		
Professional Services & Mgmt. of Compani	5,663	6,191	9.3%		
Administrative & Waste Services	4,076	4,874	19.6%		
Educational Services	17,510	17,483	-0.2%		
Health Care & Social Assistance	30,568	32,922	7.7%		
Leisure & Hospitality	14,593	14,825	1.6%		
Other Services, Ex. Public Admin	7,423	7,058	-4.9%		
Public Administration	12,956	12,681	-2.1%		

Source: DEED 2018-2028 Employment Outlook

Figure 15. Regional Occupational Employment Projections, 2018-2028

Linployment Projections, 2010-2020					
■ From employment growth ■ From exit openings					
-5,0	000 (0 5,000 10,000 15,000			
Management	-86	8,858			
Business & Financial	311	1 ,746			
Computer & Mathematical	86	I 373			
Architecture & Engineering	76	6 67			
Life, Physical, & Social	78	282			
Community & Social Service	120	1 ,981			
Legal	39	193			
Education, Training, & Library	147	5,374			
Arts, Design, Entertainment	-51	1 ,190			
Healthcare Practitioners &	870	2,966			
Healthcare Support	424	3,475			
Protective Service	-62	■995			
Food Preparation & Serving	404	10,459			
Building, Grounds Cleaning	371	3,852			
Personal Care & Service	651	6,819			
Sales & Related	-37	³ 10,448			
Office & Administrative	1,267	12,390			
Farming, Fishing, & Forestry	202	1 ,576			
Construction & Extraction	716	2,8 81			
Installation, Maintenance,	452	2,9 36			
Production	-370	7,504			
Transportation & Material	630	7,193			
<u>.</u>					

ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

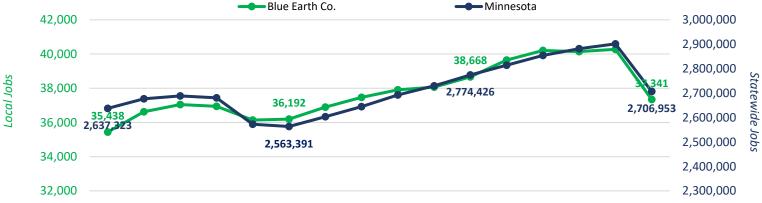
Due to the pandemic recession, after losing jobs over the past year, Blue Earth Co. had the 12th largest economy of the 87 counties in the state. Blue Earth Co. was the 69th fastest growing in the past year and the 43rd fastest growing since 2015. From 2015 to 2020, employers in Blue Earth Co. cut jobs, but lagged the state.

 2,079 business establishments
 \$49,401 annual average wage

 37,341 jobs
 \$1,844,668,467 total industry payroll

 Job change, 2015-2020 -3.4% decline
 -1,327 jobs -3.4% decline

Figure 16. Industry Employment Statistics, 2005-2020

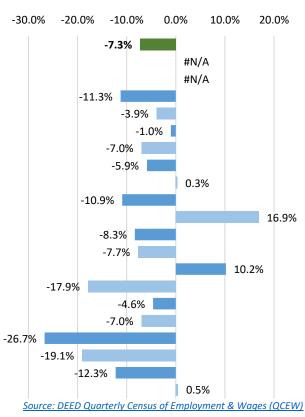


2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020

Source: DEED QCEW program

		•	
			Average
Table 15. Blue Earth Co. Industry	Number of	Percent of	Annual
Employment Statistics, 2020	Jobs	Total Jobs	Wage
Total, All Industries	37,341	100.0%	\$49,401
Agriculture, Forestry, Fish & Hunt	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Mining	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Construction	1,885	5.0%	\$62,375
Manufacturing	4,009	10.7%	\$64,390
Utilities	197	0.5%	\$102,566
Wholesale Trade	1,157	3.1%	\$65,414
Retail Trade	5,354	14.3%	\$29,704
Transportation & Warehousing	1,505	4.0%	\$43,959
Information	718	1.9%	\$57,858
Finance & Insurance	1,099	2.9%	\$83,095
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	725	1.9%	\$33,551
Professional & Technical Services	1,008	2.7%	\$82,886
Management of Companies	173	0.5%	\$88,216
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Svcs.	899	2.4%	\$35,863
Educational Services	3,646	9.8%	\$57,428
Health Care & Social Assistance	8,352	22.4%	\$54,460
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	417	1.1%	\$13,648
Accommodation & Food Services	3,215	8.6%	\$15,787
Other Services	1,245	3.3%	\$32,861
Public Administration	1,268	3.4%	\$61,447

Figure 2. Change in Jobs, 2019-2020



For more information on Blue Earth Co.'s population, labor force, and economic trends, contact:

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